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# WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. A method of treating a congenital protein deficiency in a subject, said method comprising administering to the subject endothelial progenitor cells that comprise a gene encoding a functional form of the protein responsible for said congenital deficiency at a stage of the subject's life at which non-pathologic vasculogenesis occurs.
  - 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is treated pre-natally.
  - 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is treated post-natally.
- 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the subject being treated post-natally is still continuously exhibiting signs of non-pathological vasculogenesis.
  - 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is a human.
- 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the congenital protein deficiency is due to a complete protein deficiency.
- 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the congenital protein deficiency is due to an incomplete protein deficiency.
- 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the congenital protein deficiency is due to at least one mutation in a gene encoding the protein, wherein the mutation results in reduced activity of the protein.
- 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the congenital protein deficiency comprises a blood protein disorder or lysosomal storage disease.

- 10. The method of claim 9, wherein the blood protein disorder comprises hemophilia A, hemophilia B, von Willebrand disease,  $\alpha_1$ -antitrypsin deficiency, or antithrombin III deficiency.
- 11. The method of claim 10, wherein the blood protein disorder is hemophilia A.
- 12. The method of claim 10, wherein the blood protein disorder is hemophilia B.
- 13. The method of claim 10, wherein the blood protein disorder is von Willebrand disease.
- 14. The method of claim 9, wherein the lysosomal storage disease comprises Gaucher's disease, mucopolysaccharidosis type VII (MPS VII), Fabry disease, mucopolysaccharidosis type I (MPS I), Niemann-Pick disease, Farber disease, or Pompe disease.
- 15. The method of claim 14, wherein the lysosomal storage disease is Gaucher's disease.
- 16. The method of claim 14, wherein the lysosomal storage disease is MPS VII.
- 17. The method of claim 14, wherein the lysosomal storage disease is Fabry disease.
- 18. The method of claim 14, wherein the lysosomal storage disease is Niemann-Pick disease.

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- 19. The method of claim 1, wherein the endothelial progenitor cells comprise autologous endothelial progenitor cells.
- 20. The method of claim 19, wherein the autologous endothelial progenitor cells are modified *ex vivo* prior to administration thereof to the subject in need of treatment, wherein the modification of the cells comprises introducing into said cells a gene encoding a functional form of the protein responsible for said congenital deficiency.
- 21. The method of claim 1, wherein the endothelial progenitor cells comprise heterologous endothelial progenitor cells.
- 22. The method of claim 21, wherein the heterologous endothelial progenitor cells are modified *ex vivo* prior to administration thereof to the subject in need of treatment, wherein the modification of the cells comprises introducing into said cells a gene encoding a functional form of the protein responsible for said congenital deficiency, wherein the deficient protein is not expressed by endothelial cells of other subjects not suffering from the congenital protein deficiency.
- 23. The method of claim 21, further comprising administering to the subject an immunosuppressive drug.
- 24. The method of claim 23, wherein the immunosuppressive drug is selected from the group consisting of: Cyclosporine A, prednisone, methyl prednisolone, azathioprine, cyclophosphamide, antilymphocyte globulin, and antithymocyte globulin.
- 25. The method of claim 24, wherein the immunosuppressive drug is Cyclosporine A.

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- 26. The method of claim 1, further comprising administering to said subject a therapeutically-effective dose of radiation prior to the administration of endothelial progenitor cells.
- 27. The method of claim 1, further comprising administering to said subject an endothelial cell mitogen.
- 28. The method of claim 27, wherein the endothelial cell mitogen is selected from a group consisting of: vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF), acidic and basic fibroblast growth factors (aFGF and bFGF respectively), epidermal growth factor (EGF), transforming growth factor  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  (TGF- $\alpha$  and TGF- $\beta$  respectively), platelet-derived endothelial growth factor, platelet-derived growth factor, tumor necrosis factor  $\alpha$  (TNF- $\alpha$ ), hepatocyte growth factor (HGF), insulin like growth factor, erythropoietin, colony stimulating factor (CSF), macrophage-CSF (M-CSF), granulocyte/macrophage CSF (GM-CSF), and nitric oxide synthase.
  - 29. The method of claim 28, wherein the endothelial cell mitogen is VEGF.